

**CLAIMS**

1. An aqueous coating composition comprising, as essential components, a synthetic resin emulsion (A) having a pH value of 4.0 to 10.0 and a neutral silica sol (B) having a particle diameter of 1 to 200 nm and a pH value of 5.0 to less than 8.5, wherein the neutral silica sol (B) component is contained in an amount of 0.1 to 50 parts by weight in terms of solid content relative to 100 parts by weight of the solid content of the synthetic resin emulsion (A).

10 2. The aqueous coating composition according to claim 1, which further comprises aggregate (E) having a particle diameter of 0.05 to 5 mm in an amount of 100 to 4000 parts by weight relative to 100 parts by weight of the solid content of the synthetic resin emulsion (A).

15 3. The aqueous coating composition according to claim 1, which further comprises a coloring pigment (C), an extender pigment (D), and aggregate (E) having a particle diameter of 0.05 to 5 mm such that 1 to 300 parts by weight of the coloring pigment (C), 10 to 1000 parts by weight of the extender pigment (D) and 10 to 2000 parts by weight of the aggregate (E) are contained per 100 parts by weight of the solid content of the synthetic resin emulsion (A).

20 25 4. The aqueous coating composition according to claim 1, which further comprises at least one kind of colored coating (F) dispersed in a granular state.

30 5. The aqueous coating composition according to any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein the neutral silica sol has been subjected

**to hydrophobation treatment.**